

Code Change Proposal

780 CMR 8th Edition, Chapter 9 §403.6.1, 403.6.2 Proposed MA Front End Amendments

Proposed Code Change

Insert (restore) Subsections 403.6.1 and 403.6.2 as follows:

403.6 Elevators. Elevator installation and operation in high-rise buildings shall comply with the Massachusetts Elevator Code (524 CMR) and Sections 403.6.1 and 403.6.2.

403.6.1 Fire service access elevator. In buildings with an occupied floor more than 120 feet (36 576 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, a minimum of one fire service access elevator shall be provided in accordance with Section 3007.

403.6.2 Occupant evacuation elevators. Where installed in accordance with Section 3008, passenger elevators for general public use shall be permitted to be used for occupant self-evacuation.

Note: As part of this code change, the provisions of IBC-2009 §3007, Fire Service Access Elevator and §3008, Occupant Evacuation Elevator are to be retained in Chapter 30, Elevators and Conveying Systems (attached.) All references to “ASME A17.1/CSA B44” are to be replaced with “Massachusetts Elevator Code (524 CMR)”.

Supporting Statement

Background

This proposed change restores the fire service access elevator and occupant evacuation elevator(s) requirements applicable to certain high-rise buildings, consistent with the International Building Code (IBC), 2009 edition.

(Note: The following is extracted from an ICC presentation entitled Terrorism Resistant Buildings – copy attached)

In November, 2005 the International Code Council (ICC) Board of Director created an Ad Hoc Committee for Terrorism Resistant Buildings (TRB). The TRB is responsible for reviewing and implementing the findings of the National Institute for Science and Technology (NIST) investigation of the 9-11-2201 terrorism acts at the World Trade Center (WTC). The nine (9) person TRB committee includes code officials, emergency responders, academia and consulting engineers.

Based on the efforts of the TRB, the 2009 IBC incorporates several provisions in response to the recommendations included in various NIST investigations reports related to WTC Towers 1, 2, and 7 and/or findings published by various New York City emergency response agencies, including provisions for fire service access elevators and occupant evacuation elevators.

Conclusion

Inclusion of the fire service access elevator and occupant evacuation elevator(s) provisions of the 2009 IBC in the 8th edition of 780 CMR is appropriate, consistent with the recommendations of the ICC-TRB Committee and concurrency of the ICC membership. We are not aware of any technical information, cost data, or other considerations that argue for omission of these features/systems from the Massachusetts State Building Code, 8th edition.

In light of the above information and considering the following, I respectfully request that the Board include Sections 403.6.1 and 403.6.2.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric H. Cote", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric H. Cote, P.E.